



## News Release

### For Immediate Release

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### **AUGUSTA NEW HOUSING STARTS INCREASE OVER 2011**

**AUGUSTA, Ga., November 7, 2012** – Augusta, Georgia is pleased to announce a 25% increase in new housing starts over this time last year with 308 new housing permits issued through October 2012, compared to 245 through October 2011.

"One of the key indicators for the strength of a city's economy is the overall strength and resilience of the local housing market," comments Mayor Copenhaver. "Although our community was undoubtedly significantly impacted by the recession, our local real estate market was able to weather the storm in a stronger position than most other areas and I believe that these numbers are a strong indication that Augusta's housing market is headed in the right direction with better days to come."

2012 year to date building permit revenue is up \$165,000 due to the increase in new housing starts and the new fee structure implemented this year.

For more information, please contact George Patty at [gpatty@augustaga.gov](mailto:gpatty@augustaga.gov) or 706.821.1796.